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Programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001

Report of the Fifth Committee

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I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 121 appear in the reports of the Committee contained in documents A/54/691 and A/54/691/Add.1.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 61st to 63rd, 68th to 70th and 74th meetings, on 9 to 11, 19, 22 and 23 May and 2 June 2000. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/54/SR.61-63, 68-70 and 74).

3. For its further consideration of the item the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Third report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/52/7/Add.2);

(b) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the review of resource requirements for the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (A/54/7/Add.14);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the analysis of the organizational structure and the personnel and technical resources of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the United Nations Secretariat (A/54/520/Add.1);

(d) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the analysis of the organizational structure and the personnel and technical resources of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the United Nations Secretariat (A/54/868);

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(e) Letter dated 31 March 2000 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly concerning the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti (A/54/819);

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 concerning additional expenditures referred to in paragraphs 10 and 11 of General Assembly resolution 41/213 (A/C.5/51/57);

(g) Report of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of matters of which the Security Council is seized, namely those concerning proposed resource requirements relating to the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Office in Angola (A/C.5/54/53);

(h) Report of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of matters of which the Security Council is seized, namely those concerning proposed resource requirements for a monitoring mechanism for the United Nations Office in Angola (A/C.5/54/57);

(i) Note by the Secretary-General on the review of the resource requirements for the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (A/C.5/54/58);

(j) Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/54/L.82 concerning preparations for the substantive preparatory process and the high-level international event (A/C.5/54/59);

(k) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on estimates pertaining to matters of which the Security Council is seized.[1]

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.86

4. At the 74th meeting, on 2 June, the representative of Cuba, Vice-Chairman of the Committee and coordinator of the informal consultations on this question, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Analysis of the organizational structure and the personnel and technical resources of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the United Nations Secretariat" (A/C.5/54/L.86).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.86 without a vote (see para. 16, draft resolution I).

[1] An oral statement relating to the reports of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/54/53 and A/C.5/54/57) was made by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions at the 63rd meeting of the Fifth Committee (see A/C.5/54/SR.63).

B. Draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.82

6. At the 74th meeting, on 2 June, the representative of Singapore, coordinator of the informal consultations on this question, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Review of the resource requirements for the high-level international intergovernmental event for financing for development and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries" (A/C.5/54/L.82), submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/54/L.82 without a vote (see para. 16, draft resolution II).

8. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Cuba and Japan (see A/C.5/54/SR.74).

C. Draft decision proposed by the Chairman

9. At the 63rd meeting, on 11 May, the Chairman of the Committee orally proposed a draft decision entitled "Estimates pertaining to matters of which the Security Council is seized", which read:

> "The General Assembly:
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> "(a) Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/54/53 and A/C.5/54/57) and the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the estimates in respect of matters of which the Security Council is seized;
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> "(b) Approves the charge of total requirements of $4,556,900 for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Office in Angola and the monitoring mechanism at the United Nations Office in Angola against the provisions for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001;
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> "(c) Notes that following this decision, the utilization of the provisions for special political missions amounts to $66,074,600 and that an unallocated balance of $24,312,600 remains against the provision of $90,387,200 for special political missions."

10. At the same meeting, the representative of Uganda orally proposed amendments to the draft decision by which the word "endorses" would be inserted in subparagraph (a) before the words "the observations and recommendations" and the words "and requests the Secretary-General to bring those observations and recommendations to the attention of the President of the Security Council" would be inserted at the end of the subparagraph.

11. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft decision, as orally amended, without a vote (see para. 17, draft decision I).

D. Draft decision A/C.5/54/L.76

12. At the 74th meeting, on 2 June, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, coordinator of the informal consultations on this question, introduced a draft

decision entitled "Additional expenditures referred to in paragraphs 10 and 11 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 41/213" (A/C.5/54/L.76), submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations.

13. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5/54/L.76 without a vote (see para. 17, draft decision II).

E. Statement by the Controller on the preparations for the Millennium Summit

14. At the 74th meeting, on 2 June, further to the report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/54/L.83/Rev.1 (General Assembly resolution 54/261) concerning the Millennium Summit (A/54/864), the Controller made a statement on the financial implications of the preparations for the holding of the Millennium Summit (see A/C.5/54/SR.74).

15. At the same meeting, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee agreed to take note of the information provided by the Controller.

III. Recommendations of the Fifth Committee

16. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Analysis of the organizational structure and the personnel and technical resources of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the United Nations Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/249 of 23 December 1999, in particular paragraph 93,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on an analysis of the organizational structure and the personnel and technical resources of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the United Nations Secretariat,[2] and of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General[2] and endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.[3]

[2] A/54/520/Add.1.
[3] A/54/868.

Draft resolution II
Review of the resource requirements for the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General on the review of the resource requirements for the high-level international intergovernmental event on financing for development and the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries[4] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[5]

I

1. *Welcomes* the fact that voluntary contributions for the financing of activities related to the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries have been pledged;

2. *Expresses appreciation* for the contributions and pledges received and, noting the current level of the resources in the Trust Fund for Least Developed Countries: Core Project, looks forward to the rapid disbursement of the funds being pledged;

3. *Decides*, as a precautionary measure, that should sufficient extrabudgetary resources not be immediately available for the financing of the first session of the Preparatory Committee, use would be made, on a provisional basis, of the contingency fund, on the understanding that the contingency fund would be replenished by those extrabudgetary resources as soon as they are available;

4. *Also decides* to revert to the question of the financing of the second session of the Preparatory Committee and the Conference itself at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly;

II

1. *Welcomes* the establishment of a Trust Fund for the Preparatory Committee for the High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development;

2. *Decides* that the expenses related to the travel and subsistence of the members of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee in relation to the consultations mandated in draft resolution A/54/L.82 shall be met through the transfer, to the Trust Fund for the Preparatory Committee for the High-level International Intergovernmental Event on Financing for Development, of the balance available in the Trust Fund for the Participation of Least Developed Countries in Intergovernmental Meetings;

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[4] A/C.5/54/58.
[5] A/54/7/Add.14.

3. *Encourages* members of the Bureau to finance their own travel and subsistence where possible.

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17. The Fifth Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I
Estimates in respect of matters of which the Security Council is seized

The General Assembly:

(a) Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General[6] and endorses the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the estimates in respect of matters of which the Security Council is seized, and requests the Secretary-General to bring those observations and recommendations to the attention of the President of the Security Council;

(b) Approves the charge of total requirements of $4,556,900 for the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Office in Angola and the monitoring mechanism on violations of the measures contained in Security Council resolutions 864 (1993), 1127 (1997) and 1173 (1998) against the provisions for special political missions under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001;[7]

(c) Notes that, following this decision, the utilization of the provisions for special political missions amounts to $66,074,600 and that an unallocated balance of $24,312,600 remains against the provision of $90,387,200 for special political missions.

Draft decision II
Additional expenditures referred to in paragraphs 10 and 11 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 41/213

The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General concerning additional expenditures referred to in paragraphs 10 and 11 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986[8] and of the third report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[9] and requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed on issues pertaining to inflation and currency fluctuation in the context of the budget performance reports.

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[6] A/C.5/54/53 and A/C.5/54/57.

[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/54/6/Rev.1).

[8] A/C.5/51/57.

[9] A/52/7/Add.2.